DT15 Rec'd FCT/PTO 1.3 JAN 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Frederick Marcel Van Der Vliet

Serial No. :

Not Yet Assigned

Filed

Concurrently Herewith 65,008-053

Atty. No Title

IMPROVED OPTICAL SPLITTER WITH TAPERED

MULTIMODE INTERFERENCE WAVEGUIDE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MAILSTOP: PCT

Commissioner of Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Please preliminary amend the application as follows. Amended paragraphs and a version of all pending claims and their current status are presented having necessary markings to show the changes made in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.121.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper